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Saluting Employees

Captain Harrison named 2016 Young Criminal Justice Professional of the Year

In October, Captain Jacob Harrison and Warden Joseph Wilson of the Telford Unit traveled to San Antonio to attend the Texas Criminal Justice Association Conference, where Captain Harrison was presented with the 2016 Young Criminal Justice Professional of the Year award, which is given in recognition of the efforts and accomplishments of promising professionals in the field of criminal justice.

Captain Harrison is the first winner of this award, which was established by the TCJA in 2015. The TCJA's mission is to promote and improve collaboration between security operations and treatment services in the Texas criminal justice system.

Harrison began working for TDCJ in 2002 as a correctional officer at the Eastham Unit in Huntsville while also attending Sam Houston State University. He graduated from SHSU in 2005 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Business and spent several years in the sales and finance industries before returning to TDCJ in 2010 as a correctional officer at the Byrd Unit.



Captain Jacob Harrison

Since his return to TDCJ, Harrison has worked at several units and rapidly advanced through the correctional ranks, promoting to sergeant, lieutenant and captain.

Harrison has embraced his supervisory role and his leadership has helped both co-workers and offenders. "I think the most enjoyable part of my job is when I get the chance to make a difference in someone's life and be a positive influence," Harrison said. "When

people leave my office and say 'thank you', that's a really rewarding part of my job."

His leadership skills and work ethic have also had a favorable impression on his supervisors, who submitted his name for consideration in the TCJA award selection process. Telford Unit Senior Warden Joseph Wilson commended Harrison's value saying, "He's one of those people who is always three steps ahead of what's going on and has a big-picture outlook on things. He brings good ideas that have been well thought through."

Wilson concluded, "He's one of those supervisors that you're comfortable leaving in charge. If he has the keys to this place when I lay my head down at night, I'm comfortable with the decisions he's going to make."

Since the award presentation in October, Harrison has been promoted to major at the Boyd Unit in Teague. ●